

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /069 W

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R 041850Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9930

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0614

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CH

SUBJECT: FOURTH NATIONAL PEOPLES' CONGRESS OF THE PRC

1. DURING STATEMENTS ON POLITICAL SUBJECTS IN FEBRUARY 4 POLADS, FRG REP (CITRON) SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES SHOULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE FOURTH NATIONAL PEOPLES' CONGRESS (NPC) OF THE PRC. BELGIAN REP (BOUCKAERT) DISTRIBUTED PAPER ON NEW CONSTITUTION OF PRC (SEPTEL). HE SAID ABSENCE OF CHAIRMAN MAO FROM NPC COULD BE ASCRIBED TO MAO'S DIMINISHED PHYSICAL STATE; HAD HE WISHED, MAO COULD HAVE INTERVENED AND MADE DECISIONS.

2. NETHERLANDS REP (HORAK) CAUTIONED AGAINST GIVING TOO MUCH IMPORTANCE TO MAO'S ABSENCE WHICH HIS AUTHORITIES ATTRIBUTED MORE TO THE STATE OF MAO'S PHYSICAL HEALTH THAN TO POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. WHILE MAO HAS BEEN ACTIVE RECENTLY, IT HAS CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF HALF-HOUR MEETINGS WITH VISITING LEADERS WHICH WOULD BE LESS STRENUOUS THAN ATTENDING LONG SESSIONS OF NPC.

3. CANADIAN REP (FOWELL) CALLED ATTENTION TO JANUARY 30 CANADIAN ASSESSMENT OF NPC DISTRIBUTED NATO'WIDE (AS 75/16, DTG 300009Z JAN 75). IN CANADIAN REPS PERSONAL OPINION, MAO WAS RELUCTANT TO ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH RECENT NPC. MAO COULD HAVE ARRANGED SHORT APPEARANCE BEFORE NPC HAD HE SO WISHED. BRUCE  
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## Message Attributes

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